



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kate Michie, or Kate.Michie@noaa.gov

727/824-5305, FAX 727/824-5308

<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov>

November 13, 2014

FB14-084

Reminder

Fishing Restrictions for South Atlantic Marine Protected Areas Including the St. Lucie Hump Marine Protected Area

Fishing regulations for eight marine protected areas including the St. Lucie Hump marine protected area remain in place. On February 12, 2009, NOAA Fisheries established eight Type 2 marine protected areas in federal waters from North Carolina to Florida (see Figure 1). A Type 2 marine protected area is an area within which fishing for or retention of snapper-grouper species is prohibited but other types of legal fishing, such as trolling, are allowed. The use of shark bottom longline gear is also prohibited within the marine protected areas. The prohibition on possession of snapper-grouper species does not apply to a person aboard a vessel that is in transit with fishing gear appropriately stowed.

The primary purpose of these marine protected areas is to protect the population and habitat of long-lived, deep-

water snapper-grouper species (speckled hind, snowy grouper, warsaw grouper, yellowedge grouper, misty grouper, golden tilefish, and blueline tilefish) from directed fishing pressure, while minimizing adverse social and economic effects.

More Information

For more information on the marine protected areas, including individual marine protected area maps and background information, please click on this link to the marine protected area Web page on the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Web site:

<http://www.safmc.net/managed-areas/marine-protected-areas>.

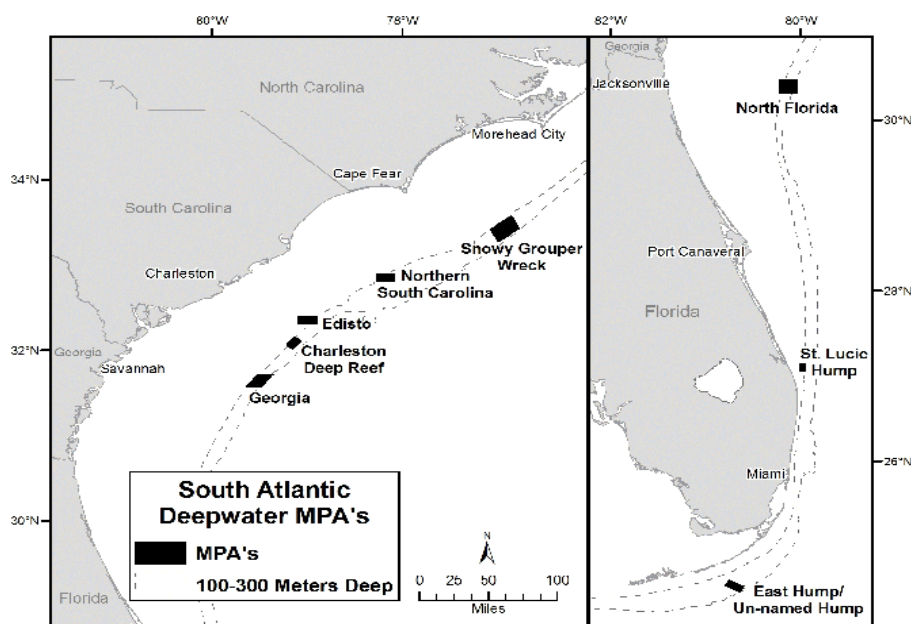


Figure 1. Map of the Type 2 marine protected areas.